



Kentucky Department of Education

Social Studies Newsletter

Observing Veterans Day



Veterans Day at Scott Co. High School

between the Allied forces and Germany on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month in 1918. In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as Armistice Day.

A Congressional Act signed in May 13, 1938 declared November 11 as a national holiday. On October 8, 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower signed Bill HR7786, which officially changed the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

In Kentucky, our schools are mandated by state law to organize programs with veterans. Kentucky

Revised Statute (KRS) 158.075 stipulates that all public schools shall observe Veterans Day for at least one class period and must include a minimum of one veteran and one teacher who will speak to the students about the meaning of Veterans Day.

KRS 158.075 also encourages Kentucky schools to seek advice in developing veterans programs from the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs and veterans' service organizations, including but not limited to the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Each year, November 11 symbolizes a national time to reflect on and honor all U.S. veterans for their service, sacrifice and patriotism for our country.

The history of Veterans Day began at the end of World War I. Armistice or cease fire was reached

Classroom Victory Garden Project



The Classroom Victory Garden Project is a unique project that integrates social studies with science, nutrition and health. The project is sponsored by the National WWII Museum to introduce elementary students to World War II history while promoting concepts such as teamwork, community, civic responsibility and healthy lifestyles.

The project provides teachers with a brief history of WWII, a WWII timeline, WWII victory garden information, lesson plans and a how-to guide to assist students in establishing their own classroom victory gardens at school. The project provides indoor and outdoor victory garden options and allows schools to join in a victory garden network by registering their victory gardens online.

The project is directed at elementary students but it could easily be adapted to middle and high school classrooms. If you are interested

in this hands-on, cross-curricular project for your social studies classroom, please visit the project's website at www.classroomvictorygarden.org.

If you decide to establish a classroom victory garden, please provide information or photos about your project by e-mailing charles.hall2@education.ky.gov.



Upcoming Events

- ⇒ **November 13-19:** National Geography Awareness Week
- ⇒ **December 1:** World AIDS Day
- ⇒ **December 2-4:** NCSS Conference in Washington, D.C.
- ⇒ **December 7:** Pearl Harbor Day
- ⇒ **January 16:** MLK Day

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Remembering Pearl Harbor

As a reminder to all social studies teachers, December 7 is fast approaching, and a lesson or activity to remember the Pearl Harbor Attack from World War II would be a terrific idea to introduce students to World War II.

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese executed a surprise attack on the U.S. Naval fleet stationed at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. More than 2,400 Americans were killed and over 1,100 Americans were injured in the attack. Fifteen U.S. military ships were either sunk or damaged, and 188

military airplanes were damaged.

The day after the attack, President Franklin Roosevelt addressed a joint session of Congress to request a declaration of war against Japan. FDR's memorable quote from his speech concerning Pearl Harbor was "a date which will live in infamy."

Until the September 11 terrorist attack in 2001, Pearl Harbor was the single greatest loss of American lives from a foreign attack on American soil.

Although December 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance is not a federal holiday, many veterans organizations and WWII

groups support the remembrance of Pearl Harbor. For social studies instruction, Pearl Harbor is an excellent discussion point to tie the past with the present. It also opens the classroom up for in-depth analysis and discussion concerning Japanese American internment and President Harry Truman's decision to drop the atomic bomb on Japan.



"...a date which will live in infamy."

Franklin D. Roosevelt
U.S. President

Dec. 8, 1941

Conferences & PD Opportunities



Nov. 17: ECON Extravaganza at Marshall Co. High School; call (270) 809-4277 to register.

Nov. 29-Dec. 1: CS4 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. ([Click here](#) for more details.)

Dec. 2-4: National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference—Washington, D.C. ([Click here](#) for details.)

Dec. 21: Road to Proficiency So-

cial Studies Workshop at Corbin Middle School; for more details, contact Ramona Davis at (606) 523-3619 or [ra-mona.davis@corbin.kyschools.us](mailto:ramona.davis@corbin.kyschools.us).

Mar. 22-24: National Council for History Education (NCHE) Annual Conference—Kansas City, Mo. ([Click here](#) for more information.)



National Geographic Bee late registration ends Dec. 9 .

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

KDE Social Studies Update



Social Studies Common State Standards Update

The Social Studies Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction (SSACI) Collaborative of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) met in

Phoenix, Ariz. November 1-3 to discuss the first draft of the social studies standards. The process is ongoing, and updates will be provided when information is provided for the public.

U.S. History EOC Exam

The U.S. History end-of-course (EOC) exam is still causing some concern among high school history teachers. A couple of updates on the EOC include the following:

1. Only 10 percent of the multiple-choice questions will come from the time period of Colonization to 1865. Ninety percent of the multiple-choice questions will cover Reconstruction to the present.
2. None of the constructed response questions (analysis and visual stimulus tasks) will come from the time period of Colonization to the present. The analysis task and the visual stimulus task will both come from Reconstruction to the present.

Literacy Pilot Network

The Kentucky Department of Education is nearing completion of the planning for the Literacy Pilot Network for History/Social Studies. The projected target start date for the pilot network is January 2012. Further updates about the Pilot Literacy Network will be provided when available.

KY Shakespeare Does U.S. History

Since 1990, Kentucky Shakespeare has performed in all of Kentucky's 120 counties, as well as Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Missouri, South Carolina and Tennessee. The group has served over half-a-million K-12th graders and is the largest provider of arts education programming in the commonwealth.

This year, Kentucky Shakespeare introduces a new program, **Living History: "We the People!"**

See Rosa Parks take a stand, witness a gold rush miner moving West and join in the debate for American Independence.

Professional actors bring to life primary source documents from American history, giving new immediacy to the words, actions and experiences of real Americans. This complete theatrical production is driven by the central theme of rights and responsibilities of a citizen in a democratic society. The actors bring to life those moments in our nation's history during which citizens have exercised their right to speak out and create change. The story travels from early colonization through the 21st century, presenting both well-known and lesser-known Americans.

This performance was developed around state learning targets and is a great tool for increasing student engagement in core content areas. In addition to the performance, the program is accompanied by lesson guides fully aligned to each grade's core content.

The program starts touring in mid January. It is targeted at grades 4-12th, and the audience is limited to 150 students per performance.

With the help of the Kentucky Department of Education and a panel of local social studies teachers, Kentucky Shakespeare specifically developed its Living History program to help teachers meet state standards.

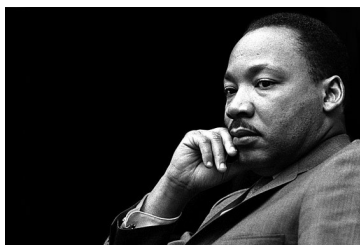
Below is a sample of some of the general standards this program can help educators meet:

- proficiency in arts and humanities Program Review
- proficiency in writing Program Review
- Exploration of primary source documents
- conflict, resolution and the identification of various perspectives within a conflict
- principles of democracy, including the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society
- importance of civic engagement in democratic societies
- identification of cause-and-effect relationships between events in American history

The basic cost of the program is \$535. This includes the 60-minute performance and the lesson guides. Title I-funded schools can receive additional discounts. Also, if you book more than one Living History show, you can receive a 20 percent discount.

For more details, call (502) 574-9900 or e-mail bec-ca@kyshakespeare.com.

The Importance of MLK Day



This year, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is celebrated on Monday, January 16, 2012. Leading up to MLK Day, social studies teachers should remind students of the sacrifices, leadership, struggles and victories from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s monumental and selfless work within the Civil Rights Movement.

President Ronald Reagan signed the King Holiday Bill into law on November 2, 1983, making MLK Day a federal national holiday. All 50 states currently recognize MLK Day. MLK Day is recognized on the

third Monday of January in correlation to King's birthday on January 15.

There is an abundance of resources, lessons and activities available for social studies teachers to use for MLK Day.

The following are just a few suggested websites for teachers:

- <http://mlkday.gov>
- <http://www.educationworld.com/holidays/archives/mlking.shtml>
- http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html
- <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1872501,00.html>
- <http://www.nps.gov/mlkm/index.htm>

World AIDS Day



December 1 of each year is World AIDS Day. The date is in commemoration of the lives lost to AIDS and to raise awareness about the AIDS pandemic in the world.

World AIDS Day is an excellent opportunity for middle and high school social studies teachers to plan discussions with students about the historic impact of AIDS, its connection to geography, its economic ramifications, and the political action involved with dealing with AIDS.

Here are some statistical facts provided by the United Nations that social studies teachers may share with students for discussion:

- FACT:** Over 25 million people have died from AIDs worldwide.
- FACT:** The estimated number of people living with HIV globally is 33,300,000.
- FACT:** The estimated number of people living with HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa is 22,500,000.
- FACT:** The estimated number of people living with HIV in the U.S. is 1,200,000.
- FACT:** The estimated number of children (age 14 and under) living with HIV globally is 2,000,000.
- FACT:** The number of orphans due to AIDS deaths globally is 16,600,000 and 14,800,000 of those orphans are in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- FACT:** The total number of AIDS diagnoses through 2009 in the U.S. was 1,142,714.

For more information go to <http://www.unaids.org/en/>.

KSSTN offers curriculum frameworks

The Kentucky Social Studies Teacher Network (KSSTN), a multi-district partnership with the Kentucky Department of Education, was formed in May 2006 with the goal of creating high school social studies curriculum and assessment materials that would be accessible for all high schools and districts in Kentucky.

The KSSTN has created "curriculum frameworks" for both a U.S. History course and a World Civilizations course at the high school level. These frameworks were created to help teachers develop units, lessons, assessments and other course materials and activities. The curriculum frameworks are presented in a template format to promote efficiency in planning instruction.

See the frameworks and more details at <http://www.education.ky.gov/kde/instructional+resources/curriculum+documents+and+resources/teaching+tools/>.

Kentucky Land-Use Planning Maps Available to Teachers

Several new maps and other classroom aids are available from the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS).



[Generalized Geologic Maps for Land-Use Planning](#) are now available for all Kentucky counties, complemented by a PowerPoint [Maps Tell Us About Where We Live](#). The poster [Kentucky Landscapes Through Geologic Time](#) shows how the sedimentary rocks that are the foundation of Kentucky

were formed when Kentucky lay beneath equatorial seas hundreds of millions of years ago. [Geologic Hazards in Kentucky](#) shows the type and extent of geologic hazards in the state. [Kentucky Terrain](#) shows the regions of Kentucky. [River Basin Maps](#), large-scale maps of the seven major Kentucky river basins, help students better understand our water resources and the need to protect them. The purpose of all the maps is to help students and the general public better understand the geology of the place where they live and how the rocks that form the land may affect human activities. All maps are illustrated with photos and diagrams and supplemented with text to explain geologic issues.

In an effort to reach out to teachers across the state, KGS has launched a Maps-to-Teachers service. Teachers may request free copies of maps for their classrooms by contacting Dan Carey, carey@uky.edu, at KGS. More than 1,200 KGS maps are now in over 400 schools across Kentucky.

A Brief History of Earth (100-slide PowerPoint presentation) may be downloaded at <http://kgs.uky.edu/kgsweb/download/geology/EARTHISTORY.ZIP>. More map and PowerPoint resources will be added from time to time. Go to http://www.uky.edu/KGS/announce/landuse_teacher.htm to link to and view the maps. Additional earth science resources are available at www.uky.edu/KGS/education/index.htm.



KCEE Stock Market Game

The Kentucky Council for Economic Education provides fall and spring stock market games for high school students. The Spring 2012 Stock Market Game will operate from January 30, 2012 to April 6, 2012. The Spring 2012 Take Stock in Kentucky Game will operate from February 6, 2012 to April 13, 2012.

For more information, go to <http://econ.org/smg/>.

Senator McConnell Recommends Book to History Teachers



In a recent trip to Washington, D.C. with a group of high school history students from Kentucky, Charles Hall, then Social Studies Department Head at Letcher County

Central High School and now the social studies consultant for the Kentucky Department of Education, visited U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky at his Senate Leadership Office at the U.S. Capitol.

While visiting with Senator McConnell, Hall discussed various points of interest and concerns in education, history and politics. Senator McConnell was especially interested in sharing his passion for U.S. history and Kentucky history with the group of Kentucky history students in his office.

Senator McConnell personally recommended Robert Remini's *Henry Clay: Statesman for a Union* and thought every history teacher and high school history student in Kentucky would benefit from reading this biography.

If you are interested in reading about one of the most powerful Americans of the early 19th century from Kentucky who made significant contributions to our nation's history, then you may want to consider Senator McConnell's recommendation to read *Henry Clay: Statesman for a Union* by Robert Remini.



Donnie Wilkerson received the Kentucky History Teacher of the Year Award from Rebecca Hanley.

History Teacher of the Year

Since 2004, outstanding American history teachers have had the opportunity for recognition through the National History Teacher of the Year Award, a program of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (GLI), in cooperation with HISTORY™ and the White House's Preserve America initiative. The Kentucky Historical Society works in partnership with GLI each year to promote the award to Kentucky teachers and convene a selection panel.

Kentucky's 2011 History Teacher of the Year is Donnie Wilkerson. Wilkerson has been teaching at Jamestown Elementary in Russell County for seven years, after a diverse career that included owning several businesses and serving as the mayor of Jamestown from 1993-98. As a 5th-grade American history teacher, Wilkerson has quickly become a leader with both students and colleagues alike, presenting workshops to other teachers, and most importantly, bringing the past to life for his students through exciting in-class lessons as well as out-of-class field trips to places such as Locust Grove and Constitution Square — extra curricular options called "Kentucky Adventures" that he provides for students on Saturdays. The judging panel had this to say about Wilkerson: "Mr. Wilkerson makes social studies come alive for his students [and] combines technology, artifacts, and primary source documents to help students grasp the core content being taught. What a fun, exciting place for social studies learning to take place."

GLI makes it easy to nominate worthy teachers—simply go to http://www.gilderlehrman.org/education/htoy_overview.php and complete a nomination form. Fellow teachers, students, parents, administrators and community members are all eligible. You may nominate any teacher at any time; however, in 2012, only those who teach 7-12 grades will be considered (in odd years, K-6 teachers will be honored). The deadline for receiving nominations for the 2012 award year is February 1, 2012. In addition to a \$1,000 cash prize and an archive of books and history materials for his or her school library, Kentucky's winner will go on for consideration in the national selection pool.

KCSS Teachers of the Year



Each year the Kentucky Council for the Social Studies selects one elementary, one middle and one high school social studies teacher for the KCSS Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award. This year's teachers included the following pictured left to right: Sarah Cole — Louisville Male High (Jefferson Co.), Brent Jackson — Corbin Middle (Corbin Ind.) and Lauren Laumeyer — Meadow View Elementary (Hardin Co.).



Did you know?

The new Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial includes the Stone of Hope statue of MLK that is detached from the Mountain of Despair stone, which symbolizes victory coming out of disappointment.

Visitors also can see the Thomas Jefferson Memorial between the two detached stones, which represent the ideas of freedom and liberty expressed by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence that gave birth to our nation.



Literacies of Disciplines



The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) released a policy research brief titled *Literacies of Disciplines*. The research focused on how there is a gap between elementary and high school student achievement on literacy assessments.

In the 4th grade, the U.S. scores are some of the highest literacy assessment scores in the world. However, by 10th grade, U.S. students scores are among the lowest literacy assessment scores in the world.

The research points out that beyond 4th and 5th grades, much of the reading students do is within content areas specifically. Due to the more complex nature of literacy pieces in specific content areas and the demand for more higher-level thinking of what students

are reading, there is an obvious decrease in literacy abilities among students as they move through higher grade levels.

One of the great challenges mentioned in this work is getting teachers to realize that literacy is not a sole discipline on its own. Literacy is shared among different disciplines and literacy can be used as an integral tool to teach students about a particular discipline.

Research has proven that schools that teach various literacies from several different disciplines show an improvement in literacy skills among students and allow them to transfer learning experiences across multiple disciplines. Classrooms utilizing this approach are often found to be strong centers for formative assessment and use formative assessment to positively impact student learning and performance.

To support and implement the literacies of discipline approach, teachers will need intensive professional development to change their thinking and teaching of literacy. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) focus on making literacies of discipline a central focal point for teachers and instruction.

The final component of this research calls for communities of practice to be developed for teachers to share their ideas and experiences with literacies of discipline. This strategy moves teachers beyond the traditional model of participating in professional development one time and providing no follow-up or continued practice and reinforcement of the training.

For more information, you may access the *Literacies of Disciplines* article at <http://www.ncte.org/library/NCTEfiles/Resources/Journals/CC/0211-sep2011/CC0211Policy.pdf>.



Resources for the U.S. History End-of-Course Assessment

Kentucky high school U.S. History teachers are planning now for the U.S. History end-of-course (EOC) assessment. As teachers begin to plan, there are many resources available in U.S. History to assist in teaching the current *Program of Studies* and *Core Content 4.1* to prepare students for the U.S. History EOC.

The following are just a few of the useful resources available for U.S. History teachers:

ACT's QualityCore Manual: It contains a course outline, instructional unit plan, a model instructional unit and other useful resources to utilize for the EOC assessment. (Note: This is a resource only and is not intended to be followed verbatim for instruction.)

Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History: GL has numerous American History curriculum modules, online exhibits, podcasts from historians and traveling exhibits available for history teachers.

National History Day: NHD provides resources and information on how

teachers can utilize the NHD competition to teach students how to research, write, discuss, debate and question history through interaction with primary/secondary source documents and inquiry.

ushistory.org: The website includes a detailed electronic U.S. History textbook, various digital copies of primary sources and extensive links for a variety of American history topics.

teachinghistory.org: The National History Education Clearinghouse has teaching materials, resources, classroom toolkits and best practices for history available for elementary, middle and high school social studies grade levels.

smithsoniansource.org: The Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies provides a large collection of teaching resources for American History that include primary sources, DBQs, lesson plans and videos.

We're on the Web!
www.education.ky.gov

If you are part of a social studies organization and you have an upcoming event, workshop or conference, please provide us with the dates so we can publish it in our next newsletter.

The Kentucky Department of Education's social studies consultant is part of the Academic Core Branch of the Division of Program Standards in the Office of Next-Generation Learners.

The social studies consultant will provide support services to school districts and schools on educational topics and issues relative to Kentucky social studies education.

Social studies teachers will be notified of social studies events, trainings, news, initiatives and more via our quarterly publication of the *Social Studies Newsletter* and update postings on the Social Studies Listserv.

Questions or comments? Contact Social Studies Consultant Charles Hall today.

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Opportunities at The McConnell Center

The McConnell Center at the University of Louisville focuses on providing civic education opportunities to K-12 social studies teachers and civic leadership opportunities to undergraduate college students majoring or minoring in political science at the University of Louisville.

The McConnell Scholars Program selects 10 high school graduates each year for the program. The McConnell Scholars are provided free tuition at the University of Louisville; travel to study abroad internationally, meet and interact with major state and national leaders; and mentoring by more than 200 McConnell Scholars Alumni.

The deadline for high school

students interested in applying for the 2012 McConnell Scholars Program is January 15, 2012.

For more information, go to <http://louisville.edu/mcconnellcenter/scholarships/admission-process> or call (502) 852-8811.

The McConnell Civic Education Program for Kentucky social studies teachers includes the Teacher Scholar Program, Liberty & American History Professional Development Series, and public lectures and book studies.



Photo taken during the McConnell Teacher Scholar trip to Mt. Rushmore in October 2011.



Photo taken during the McConnell Teacher Scholar trip to the national Crazy Horse Monument in October 2011.